

There is a wide yawning black infinity. In every direction ~~the~~<sup>the</sup> extension is endless; the density of depth and the infinity; ~~the~~ ~~depth~~ is overwhelming. ~~The~~ darkness is immortal. Where light exists, it is pure, blazing, fierce; but light exists almost nowhere, and the blackness itself ~~is~~ also pure and blazing and fierce. But most of all, there is very nearly nothing in ~~the~~ ~~blacks~~ the dark; except where there is light, this infinite receptacle is empty. for little bits here and there, often associated with the light,

This picture is strangely frightening. It should be familiar. It is our universe. ~~even~~ These stars, ~~and planets~~ which we know, of which there seem so ~~many~~ numerous, ~~as sand,~~ ~~as dust,~~ less than dust, ~~which~~ the enormity of space in which they is nothing. Nothing! Nothing, emptiness, void, chasm, vacuum. We are not without empathetic terror when we ~~read~~ open Pascal's Pensées and read "I am ~~afraid of~~ afraid of the great silent spaces between the worlds."

This island earth is adrift about a rather mediocre star <sup>which opinions</sup> we call the Sun. ~~The~~ ~~sun~~ is one of an enormous number — perhaps one-hundred billion <sup>of them</sup> — of other stars loosely grouped together.

into a great wheel-shaped enclave, which we equally ignorantly ~~call~~ the Galaxy. For there are other galaxies, many others; in fact astronomy will never know how many. But we already know that there are many more galaxies in the universe than there are stars in a galaxy.

Before this immensity, what are we? And yet <sup>↑</sup>

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Yet there are some ~~for whom~~ whom those great silent spaces represent not so much a [object of avoidance] as a challenge. There are serious, intelligent men working at this moment to ~~bridge~~ the space between the worlds.

~~There are national organizations~~ is evidence that the governments of the United States and the Soviet Union are working on it, ~~there are national organizations such as the British Interplanetary Society and the American Rocket Society working on it, and there is an international organization~~ <sup>which is</sup> beginning to coordinate activities, the International Astronautical Federation.

Let us consider why this work is being done and what it ~~will~~ <sup>may</sup> accomplish.

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The bone ~~creaking~~ crunching of a tung breaking under foot jolted him into conscious thought.

"~~Devil!~~ Must you be so clumsy", Smythe snapped.  
"If ~~that~~ those aren't historic first words we've never heard long!" Everard retorted, faintly annoyed.

"~~Oh~~ Am sorry!" I am sorry!" apologized faintly bounces early ~~Am sorry~~ "Smythe's echo ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~  
~~the~~ off ~~the~~ the Mountain wall. It ~~sank~~ etched and died and was replaced by the oppressive silence. Silence which hung like a shroud from the trees and descended upon ~~the~~ them ~~the~~ thick and heavy as if it were a part of the mist, conceived in the early twilight and now growing to adulthood. The ~~dark~~ ~~twilight~~ sky was splashed with red and ~~orange~~ ~~to~~ blood ~~contaminated~~ to have bled ~~long ago~~ upon the arid ground ~~which~~ ~~at their feet~~ ~~the~~ red-brown surface seemed to thirst for more. The verdant wealth of the nearby forest was a green crown upon the land painting the ~~the~~ region <sup>in</sup> dichromatic harmony.

Chill winds swirled down upon the small party on the plateau. Winds born upon ~~the~~ ice-fields on the ~~the~~ horizon, mirrored red by the waning sun.

"Lush forests and sterile ice," Vorpal remarked. "A world of incongruity incongruities to baffle the mind and startle the emotions."

"Hello! There's one of your emotion starters now" Smythe announced sardonically.

On the plain below ~~a~~ a strange caravan appeared. Two reptilian anomalies trudged across the land on some unknown pilgrimage. ~~He~~ ~~He~~ ~~He~~ the first of the horrors had a large kite shaped head and seemed to sail along the ground propelled ~~by~~ by

Eva

muffles

"Either our fossil record is more incomplete than estimate and we are off in our chronology by several million years or we are not in the Triassic but in the Permian Epoch."

"Impossible," blustered Von Pitsl interrupting, "Experimental confirmations of Sagerman's theories have been accurate to the order of magnitude of days."

"However the ~~radioactive~~ radioactive dating experiments are accurate to any desirable <sup>order of</sup> magnitude. Our first alternative <sup>sensu</sup> is therefore & far more implausible than the second."

"But could we have missed by 10 million years?" interjected Smythe.

"Perhaps the hand becomes less accurate as one goes further back into the past."

"How then do you account for the successful trip of the unarmored ship?", queried Von Pitsl, still unswayed, "Motion picture records show that the ~~goal~~ goal of the ship which was the Permian Epic was reacted."

"Perhaps our time machines prefer the Permian epic", Smythe quipped.

"~~that~~ If you were trying to be funny, you missed by as much as our ~~time~~ time machine," said Eva.

"Triassic or Permian we still have work to do", ~~the~~ Ever conscious of the tact at hand the business-like mind of Dr Otto Von Pitsl, financier of the expedition, was beginning to file ~~the~~ data and induce well organized procedure "We still must collect our Geological, paleontological and Morphological data in our limited time," Von Pitsl was almost gleeful now. ~~He~~ His life and health. The ~~to~~ work was ~~the~~ Stan vital, the mainspring which compulsion

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kept the ~~passionate~~ ~~active~~ ~~that was his mind at peak performance!~~

① the wind ~~at~~ catching in the large spring fin on his back. The illusion was heightened by the amazing slowness of the second. He lumbered through the red purpice; an absent ~~no~~ minded sailboat which had neglected to pull up its anchor. Its legs, ~~its~~ grew straight out from ~~its~~ sides ~~and~~ and seemed to break off sharply at right angles, coming to rest finally through this circuitous route. It appeared to have learned to walk so long ago that it couldn't remember how.

"Right out of a well-integrated nightmare" Smyle ~~screamed~~, Seymour

"Pterododon and Smoia? Impossible" Eva said incredulously.

"Nothing," said Von Piel philosophically "is impossible."

"Those life forms became extinct 10<sup>7</sup> years ago."

"What does ~~this~~ mean?" Smyle queried

The stark silence was suddenly intruded upon by a ~~hum~~ hum which followed them. It grew slowly to become louder, louder behind them. They spun around to behold a vivid streak of light splitting the twilight sky. The light became brilliant and the sound increased to a violent crackling. Abruptly the light disappeared into the forest. ~~the~~ ~~dark~~ ~~silence~~ in which ~~the~~ ~~light~~ hung by the thread of anticipation and then a blast of light and crescendo noise dashed at them ~~with~~ with sudden fury.

(1)

Eva was the first to notice it. ~~At first~~  
A subtle change in pressure that ~~had~~ had ~~been~~ matured  
into a ~~murmuring~~ <sup>murmuring</sup> whine. ~~It~~ Now it was  
apparent to all. The pressure on the eardrums  
~~became~~ became a sudden pain, and ~~then~~ it  
mysteriously vanished, replaced by a faint but audible rumble.  
They turned to face it. Above the distant forest  
a streak of light split the twilight sky. <sup>abruptly</sup>  
~~dissipated~~ ~~suddenly~~ and as if on cue the sound  
increased to a growl and a furious roar. The  
light descended sharply and as it touched the  
tips of the trees it seemed to detonate ~~like~~ some  
~~unknown~~ explosive. A flash of  
light illuminated the silhouetted trees in sudden  
~~sharp~~ <sup>short</sup> detail. As it subsided a deepening  
tidal wave of sound swept down upon  
them, ~~and~~ ~~they~~ engulfed them in  
its might and at last washed over their  
heads and spilled off the plateau onto the  
midnight desert.

"A gigantic meteor!" ~~shouted~~ Von  
Pitsel announced in awe ~~and~~ ~~the~~.

"Perhaps," chided Eva ~~just~~; "It's  
one of your extra-terrestrials, Russel!"

"I always knew you right," he murmured <sup>half</sup>  
to himself, "Some alien force directed the putting of life."

"Don't be ridiculous," Von Pitsel argued.

"But don't you see?" Smyle was  
overjoyed. <sup>now</sup> It explains all the details ~~of~~  
~~sudden developments along the evolution~~  
~~which cannot otherwise be explained~~

"Preposterous!"

"Nothing is preposterous."

"Humph!"

"Can't you appreciate the consequence,

P of such a situation" the consequences of  
"I am interested only in your collecting  
data on comparative Morphology. However if on  
your field trip tomorrow you should meet one of  
your alien fastees do invite him back for  
tea."

Smythe gave up. They were just dense!

The hole in the ground appeared almost instantaneously. The earth scurried frantically out from under the blast, creating as if by its own volition a pothole on its surface! It ran away from the onslaught of the juggernaut leaving only a charred scar. The silver and black obelisk settled contentedly on its cushion of energy. At once it ceased its beneticulous descent and dropped ~~itself~~ to the ground, over-anxious to pest again.

~~The sudden silence was令人惊异的~~  
~~as still as the deepest ocean.~~  
~~They had deeply felt their bodies which were suddenly~~  
~~frozen solid.~~ It seemed an eternity & in which  
they were falling again and then they were down. They ~~had~~  
~~been~~ It seemed that they ~~had~~ had been holding their  
breaths for so long and now could breathe again.

"Cle<sup>e</sup> just like a science fiction landing," said Taggart.

"Write that down in the log Captain"; Lansdowne said, "First words ever uttered on Venus"

Crawford grunted. As by pre-arrangement the click and whirr of the ~~atmospheric~~ Analyzer started up, cued by the grunt. He lit a cigarette. "If the Scout ship's data was accurate we can go out soon."

"Wonder what we're gonna find out there" said Taggart fidgeting the web belt of his holster. The mist swirled outside the port, a grey screen, tinged with pink shutting them in.

"Now don't get fidgety. There's not much  
more than a lot of strange flora, I'm afraid there'll  
be no dinosaurs, no giant amoebas and no big-eyed

but the  
~~pen~~  
expired

b QWERTYUIOP  
A SDFGHJKLMN  
RZXVGNOPQ

⑥



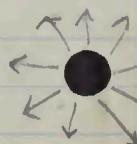
"monsters", ~~they~~ Crawford drawled.

"Don't be so sure of that", said Taggart.

"I'm afraid he's right Brad." Landauer interjected. Poor Brad ~~sighed~~ thought Landauer he was really looking forward to a slimy green QWERTYUIOP with 12 heads and poison tentacles.

"Well I just finished reading a story by this here guy Weinbaum. And there's this thing on Mars see, a dream beast. And it takes the form of anything you want to see. And when you get close enough to it, it gets you and eats you. How do we know we're not gonna find one of them out there?"

Crawford cleared his throat. With an air of paternal indulgence he began, "Now look Brad, it's just impossible that any form of animal life known to earth or to the minds of earthmen could exist here. The fauna we know is adapted



to Earth's environment ~~and~~ Men's minds. are adapted to Earth's fauna. So anything you find out there will be new and surprising and by all means be careful. But to expect a particular form <sup>would be misleading, have I mentioned</sup> I ~~com~~ <sup>intended</sup> lead lined jarum?"

"Well some of these so-called boys have come up with some pretty inconceivable babies. How can we be sure. Take this thing, ~~the~~ from The Martian Odyssey. That I just mentioned...."

"O.K., O.K.", interrupted Crawford, "you've made your point but it's wrong. You're just being stupid and pig-headed. That's what comes from reading that garbage. I just don't want to hear any more about it. We've got enough to do without listening to your ravings about dream-beasts..."

Captain Crawford, said Landauer, ~~slapping~~ tapping at his arm.  
What is it?



(7) \_\_\_\_\_  
"The atmosphere and temperature are as expected, the air lock is open"

They drew a deep breath and stepped out on the ~~lucky~~ ramp. ~~He~~ The mist enveloped them & then cleared. Venus streaked before them, awaiting ~~in~~ them, unknown & mysterious.

Someone had once said, "To expect the unknown is what keeps the adventure on his toes." But the ~~—~~ knows . . . .

\* \* \* \* \*

"This is the forest primeval. The murmuring ~~creatures~~, the condittes & the lepidodendron," Smythe mused to himself, pleased with his cleverness.

"Sigillarias & seed ferns", Smythe addressed each one by name as he jotted them down in his book. After these formal introductions he went on not stopping to chat

A drop ~~of~~ sweat formed on his forehead. It stored its potential energy and began <sup>uniform</sup> acceleration down between his eyes and across the bridge of his nose. It hung on the tip of his nose and then plunged into oblivion. He lifted his ~~pitch~~ helmet to ~~wipe~~ off his brow. The heat was oppressive. His shirt was warm and sticky & was plastered to his back like a moth layer of skin. He was glad that Eva had talked him into wearing shorts. Even though his hairy legs looked a bit ludicrous <sup>view point</sup> he was rather fond of them. But this was not a completely objective view point. The lobster at his side was an unendurable sight which pummeled his hip with every step.

"Worse than British ~~heat~~ in Tanganyika ~~is the sun~~ in August," he said to a large fear. It, acknowledging his greater wisdom, did not answer.

~~He was a~~ ~~standing~~ There was a man standing in

was his. ~~that~~ — significance overpowered him.

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the clearing. But there just couldn't be a man standing in the clearing. Smythe rubbed his eyes. He didn't go away. ~~The alien turned back to him & he noticed the man~~  
~~just before he emerged into the clearing.~~  
Yet Smythe was unseen. He sat down on a nearby rock hard. The Sharp contact with the rock brought ~~himself~~ ~~himself~~ ~~himself~~. The explanation was here, but he could not sum it down. ~~I~~ ~~it~~ ~~it~~ It ran like Quicksilver through the fingers of his brain.

~~He~~ ~~sat~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~clearing~~ ~~right~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~alien's~~ ~~eyes~~. ~~He~~ ~~looked~~ ~~at~~ ~~him~~. He gasped for breath. This would show those dolts. Smythe tingled with excitement at the thought. He was going to be the first earthman to communicate with an Extra-Terrestrial!

Smythe marveled at the alien's ingenuity & excellent diplomacy, "He must have read my mind and made himself appear human so I would not be horrified." Such consideration indicates a non-hostile being. But, he probably planted that thought in my mind. And this one too. Oh Wonderful, Wonderful! He appears before me as a human, solves my dilemma and...."

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*  
\* He stopped awed by this final appropriate touch. The Extra-Terrestrial ~~even~~ looked like someone he knew. Smythe drew himself up to his full 5'-. He took a deep breath and stepped into into the clearing. This was his dream of glory.  
"Hello there," he called.

\* The cat had turned around

M M M

①

"Hello ~~friend~~!"

He froze. The bushes across the clearing parted and a foot emerged followed by another foot, 2 legs, a body and a head. The composite was a rather unassuming sight, and still it had shocked Taggart into a semi-comatose state. He watched ~~it~~, bewildered, as it waved a friendly gesture and started across the wide clearing.

"Easy Brad," he said half aloud, "let's think this out. That whatever it is across the clearing looks like a human being. What's more it looks like Russel Smythe. There are only 3 humans here on Venus + he ain't one of them."

He paused, proud of his reasoning and the syllogistic conclusion which he muttered to himself:

"That ain't no human!"

"But what is it if it ain't human. It must be a Venusian. Then - why does it look like somebody I know? Wait a minute wait a minute, maybe it's makin' me think it looks like that!"

He drew his gun and smiled, confidently of his logic.

"A Venusian Dream Beast, huh?" ~~Well this is~~ ~~why~~  
~~is due for a shock!~~

He waited for the Dream Beast to get close. Taggart raised his gun. The beast stopped and glanced from the gun to Taggart. A look of terrifying realization crossed its face. It started to run + run.

With a triumphant air of superior intellect Taggart squeezed the trigger. The Beast pitched forward, twitched and was still. Brad ~~sneezes~~ approached it cautiously and nudged it with his foot. The corpse rolled over. It still looked like Russel Smythe.

"Funny I always thought they changed back to their normal ~~one~~ forms after they died. Guess not. Gotta ~~read~~ re-read that story again." ~~Often it does~~

\* \* \* \* \*

Russel Smythe

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He lay face down in the ooze. His own ooze.  
He would have heard voices, approaching - if he  
could hear. But he was ~~susceptible~~ quite dead.

The first voice said, ~~memorably~~ Smythe -  
is wasting ~~time~~ precious time -

"You judge Russel too harshly. I'm sure  
the shots we heard were fired judiciously." This was  
the second voice.

The first ~~had~~ started to say, "Well if it turns  
out to be . . ."

She screamed. He cringed and felt sick. ~~He~~  
~~was~~ ~~a~~ ~~large~~ ~~a~~ ~~wrongeous~~ ~~buttonhole~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~back~~  
~~of~~ ~~Smythe's~~ ~~shirt~~, ~~just~~ ~~above~~ ~~the~~ ~~belt~~. ~~But~~ ~~the~~ ~~last~~  
~~button~~ ~~was~~ ~~a~~ ~~left~~ ~~one~~ ~~several~~ ~~inches~~ ~~behind~~ ~~the~~ ~~hole~~. ~~But~~  
~~these~~ ~~inches~~ ~~were~~ ~~out~~ ~~of~~ ~~that~~ ~~precious~~ ~~time~~.

"Smythe a suicide!" Von Petel declared. "I  
would never have believed it! How perplexing!"

Eva discovered ~~that~~ ~~a~~ ~~perplexity~~ ~~had~~  
~~been~~ ~~in~~ ~~his~~ ~~head~~  
"It wasn't suicide. He was shot in the back  
His gun hasn't been fired - ~~So~~ ~~it~~ ~~wasn't~~  
~~suicide~~ ~~but~~ ~~homicide~~ ~~that~~ ~~did~~ ~~it~~ ~~to~~ ~~him~~ ~~and~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~ ~~an~~ ~~accident~~ ~~and~~ ~~it~~ ~~was~~ ~~frightened~~!"

Von Petel:

"~~Harley~~ Perhaps Russel's ~~it's~~ ~~initially~~ ~~alive~~? "  
"E-e-o." ~~That~~ ~~must~~ ~~be~~ ~~it~~, Eva. ~~Revolvers~~ ~~are~~ ~~so~~ ~~unusual~~  
sounds ~~that~~ ~~just~~ ~~be~~ ~~it~~."

They stood awhile in ~~silence~~ ~~silence~~ and thought  
of what they had just said. She screamed again.

\* \* \* \* \*

\*[insert] "We three are the only humans on earth. This is the  
Mesozoic Age - there are no other firearms.

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~~La~~ ~~Redacted~~

The metabolic processes limit the amount of energy the human body can expend. Consequently it puts an upper bound on the speed at which a human can run. He was trying hard to improve this on his return to the ship.

Crawford and Landauer were on their feet at the first sound of something crashing through the underbrush. They were ready for anything. Anti-climactically all they got was Taggart!

"I knew I was right. I told ya," Taggart blurted out as he arrived like an express train pulling into a station.

"Sit down and relax Brad," said Landauer, "Right about what?"

"I found a dream-beast, but it didn't fool me, not me."

"Don't start on that fairy tale again," — Crawford snapped, "That pink has got you imagining things."

"The desire for a conclusion to be correct can cause ~~the human's imagination of a conclusion into reality~~. Are you sure Brad?", asked Landauer doubtfully.

"I ain't gonna argue. Come with me and I'll show ya," — Brad announced confidently.

Crawford let out an exaggerated sigh, "All right I'll come to see your dream-beast. And you stay behind and ~~start~~ your work!"

Landauer nodded his approval.

With a smirk Taggart said, "That business about wishing . . . well that bullet in its back is sure real." He was going to show them that delusion doesn't breed illusion. They set out to find the reality.

\* \* \* \* \*

She stopped screaming.

"It's a terrible thing and we will do something to remedy the situation. But we must get the body back to the ship. We can't leave it here to be eaten by the carnivores. Now ~~it~~

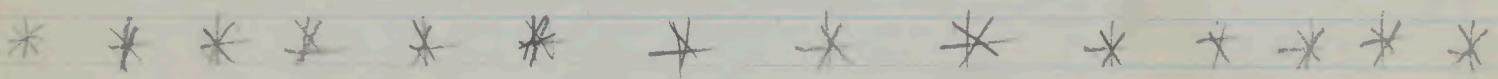
compose yourself Eva Bartas and help me."

"It's just a lump of flesh to you now isn't it?"

"That's all a human ever is!"

"~~Captain~~ "Perhaps"

The furrows in the loam were created by the weight of his heels dragging. The lead bullet seemed to have ~~hit~~ added an infinite <sup>passage</sup> ~~moment~~. But it only seemed so heavy because it was a completely dead weight!



They wouldn't laugh at him anymore. Not him. He would show them the dream beast and it ~~would~~ had been conquered by him. Why he was a hero. His expanded his chest a little more. His heart swelled a little, too, ~~also~~ though not as perceptibly.

"It's right through here captain."

Crawford ~~sighed~~ grunted, still unplaceable.

There was the ~~the~~ shock, disillusionment, and amazement which come with disappointment. There was also ice-cold panic. ~~There was also the~~ ~~the~~ beast. For Crawford there was only an empty clearing.

"All right Brad we've ~~had enough wild goose chases~~  
~~for~~ chased enough wild geese for one day"

"But it was right here I tell ya. Right here. Look here's its blood and see tracks where it's been dragged away. There ~~are~~ are more of them don't ya see that?"

Crawford saw and could not deny his eyes.

Silently 2 revolvers were drawn from their cocoons with the promise of a quick termination of their state of suspended animation. There was ~~the~~ noise of ~~the~~ the beast approaching

"Don't let it get into your mind," Toggart warned. Crouching in the bushes they closed their minds to the dream beast's insinuation. They completely closed their minds.

~~Stimulus plus impulse plus action equals reflex. The distance covered is many feet of neurons, + synapses and a fraction of a sec. The time is minute. This makes the activity amazing.~~

The body dropped heavily and settled into one of the grotesque positions common only to corpses. There had ~~been~~ undoubtedly been a noise back in the clearing. Fear came over them quickly like a net cast by an expert.

"They've returned to the clearing," said Von Pfeil.

"If we move we'll be heard."

"We've undoubtedly been heard already. We'll return to the clearing but we'll circle around and outflank them. Then surprise is on our side."

Careful now!"

"Yes ~~the~~ caution is our key word."

Caution ~~reduces~~ produces acute perception and an ability to observe minute detail. Over-caution is a grievous error. It produces blindness, ~~and~~ ~~produces~~.

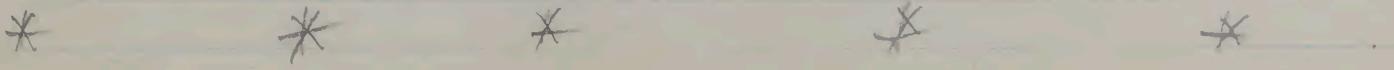


"There they ~~were~~ were," Crawford nudged Taggart and acknowledged the two figures across the clearing which appeared suddenly and then vanished into the thicket.

"Did they look like humans ~~to~~ to you Cap?" Brad asked.

Crawford snorted affirmatively. "Yeah, but even though they make me see humans, I won't be fooled."

He fondled his revolver like an old friend whom he was delivering from the throes of unemployment.



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"Did you see them?" Eva asked.

"Yes but more important, they saw us."

"But you don't understand? They were humans."

"It's ~~a trick~~, it ~~is~~ some kind of trick Eva. But we won't be duped, not by any filthy aliens."

The revolver in his hands was alien to him also. But there are aliens and there are aliens!

\* \* \* \* \* Oxford fired into the thicket. The thicket fired back.

\* \* \* \* \* "You can't trick me, alien!"

\* \* \* \* \* "You won't get into my mind Venustian!"

\* \* \* \* \* "Anachronism!"

\* \* \* \* \* "Dirty dream-beast!"

\* \* \* \* \* "Feeble ~~extraterrestrial~~!"

\* \* \* \* \* "Hypnotist!"

\* \* \* \* \* "Extra-terrestrial!"

"Extra-Terrestrial!"

\* X X - X \* X X

"Extra-Terrestrial!"

\* X - X \* X \*

"Extra-Terrestrial!"

\* X \* \* X \* \*

Homicide is the ~~murder~~ murder of a man; genocide the murder of a race, legicide the murder of a God. What then is the murder of an extra-terrestrial? Xenocide? Or is it Homicide? Or Suicide?

\* \* \* \*

And then there was one — and it was terrestrial.

A hand which had never <sup>before</sup> held a gun had committed murder. She threw the gun from her as if it were a poisonous serpent. The hand could not be thrown away.

She sank to her knees and sobbed, "Oh God." Then she prayed a little. Then she just cried quietly and blissfully lost track of time.

Jacob Landenel stepped warily into the clearing. He perceived and tried to ~~comprehend~~ and then there were two — and they were ~~terrestrial~~. But ~~terrestrial~~, when

\* \* \* \* \*

He stood over her for a long time pointing his gun at her head. She never stopped crying. After a while he put his gun away and sat down beside her.

"Eva Bartas," he touched her shoulder.

"Go away," she whispered and did not look around.

where the spaceship had been was only the charred ground - a monument to its absence.

16

"Turn around" he said a little too loudly and was surprised by his own ~~own~~ grandfather.

She turned around and stared at him blankly.

"They're all dead" she said colorlessly.

He gave her some water. Her eyes began to focus.

"They're all dead" she said again, "And you can't be here."

"Where is here, Eva?"

"Here on Earth in the Persian Epic"

He gave her some more water. Then he drank some himself and wished it were brandy.

"Eva" he said ~~sighing~~ but matter-of-factly, "This is Venus 19—."

"Venus? Then those bodies" she ~~had~~ shuddered are really Taggart and Crawford not — aliens?

"Yes they're Aliens."

She started.

"But this is Venus" he continued "and Earthmen are not indigenous to Venus"

"I'm sure Jacob that this is Earth."

"Then those bodies are not dream beasts, and neither are you?" His hand was on his holster again. He still was not sure. This might be the ultimate answer.

The too was unsure. But Eva was beyond caring.

"I hate to disappoint you Jacob, but if I were a dream beast I would have eaten you long ago. She smiled. Jacob was a little relieved to see that the smile ~~had~~ no fangs.

"<sup>Doth Eva,</sup> This environment is exactly the ~~environment~~ <sup>exactly</sup> ~~environment~~ <sup>as</sup> ~~expected~~ <sup>of</sup> Venus. Sent ship ~~for~~ later, <sup>as</sup> geograph ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~atmosphere~~ <sup>fact</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~temperature~~ <sup>mass</sup>, ~~but~~ <sup>know</sup> ~~date~~ ~~are~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~discarded~~. Besides I <sup>know</sup> ~~navigated~~ a space ship which left from Earth bound for Venus. We this landed here. This <sup>must</sup> be Venus <sup>very</sup> easily.

"But can you discard <sup>very</sup> easily Sagerman's theories,

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, Radioactive dating experiments, geotectonic and paleontological evidence on flora + fauna. ~~all + all~~ the enormous ~~other~~ greater amount of data that exists about the Earth's past than about Venus? ~~any easier~~. And I also know I got into a time machine and arrived in the Earth's past!"

"I set out for Venus, you for the Earth's past, we both arrived at our destination and yet we're in the same place!" He reached out incredulously and touched her to confirm the fact.

"But where are we?"

"You're on Earth in the Permian Epic and I'm on ~~Venus~~ Venus" both here."

"But we're in the same place!"

"Exactly" ~~Jacob~~ Jacob said and smiled

The smile melted from his lips and vanished. A smile is only a symbol of assuredness.

"The ~~-~~ Permian Epic and Venus are the same place?"

"Apparently —"

~~she says this can't be why  
one has to wait so long to be invited by 10<sup>7</sup> years.~~

"~~Well~~"

"What about the other planets?" She sat down again and began to giggle. "What about the other planets . . . ?"

"Eva!"

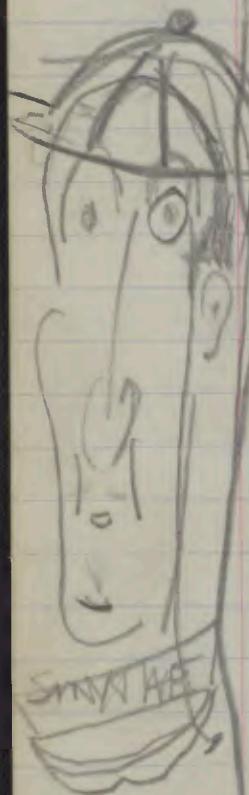
She laughed. Nothing was funny but she laughed anyway.

He shook her violently.

The laughter went on and on giggling

Jacob

← the afternoon stillness. ~~the forest~~ Jarred by  
 the sound the forest answered ~~itself~~ with  
 a cadence that was peculiarly its own.  
 the voice of the forest ~~was~~ <sup>surprised</sup> detached from reality  
 and yet played an insoucious counterpoint to  
 the hysterical theme.



~~"All roads lead back"~~

~~Earth~~ "Do you remember how Alice ~~couldn't~~  
 couldn't get away from Looking Glass House? But  
 All the roads lead back and she couldn't get to  
 the Garden of Live Flowers. All our roads lead back  
 too, ~~but~~ they all lead back to Earth — to  
 Earth, Jacob" ~~to Earth~~.

~~The hammers hit a man's head~~  
 He hit her and they both recoiled from  
 the blow.

"I'm sorry" they said simultaneously, they  
 slaved a trace then hearty laugh and Jacob  
 breathed more easily again.

① <sup>transition</sup> "This is what it means" "What does it mean?"

"The correlations are ~~fantastic~~  
 from <sup>infrared</sup> Spectroscopy ~~the~~, the atmosphere of Venus  
 is largely CO<sub>2</sub> except near the surface,  
 where there is appreciable oxygen due to  
 its lower molecular weight and the lack  
 of vertical circulation. From geochemistry  
 we know the primitive atmosphere of the  
 earth was <sup>non-oxygen</sup> reducing. As free oxygen formed  
 from the photochemical decomposition



(19)

of water it immediately ~~oxidized~~ the uncombined metals exposed to it, particularly carbon - forming  $\text{CO}_2$ . Photosynthesis would also account for a large proportion of the carbon dioxide. Hence we find large amounts of  $\text{CO}_2$ . The red iron oxides ~~exist~~ below the plateau tend to confirm the notion of prototypal support this. So much for atmosphere.

The masses of Venus + Earth are approximately equal. The period of rotation of Venus which was determined from the artificial satellite we put up corresponds to what we think was the earth's day 250 mil years ago. The temperatures — about  $33^{\circ}\text{C}$  — are alike. And the existence of continents, the lack of continental drift, the glaciation in the southern hemisphere, the typical plants + animals. Well that's enough isn't it?

"Then Venus is Earth's past?"

"Yes. And ~~the~~ ~~other~~ other

~~planets~~ ~~be~~ he whispered.

"What are you saying Jacob that..."

~~But that's ridiculous!~~

"~~But it's just a question of~~

~~such a small distance.~~

"~~I'm not going to tell you the future~~

And Mercury is the very early protoplant. Mars is the later earth, cold and dying. And beyond Mars

"... are the <sup>planetary</sup> asteroids" she concluded for him.

"Certain events in space - the most have an independent existence both in space

and in time since ~~distance~~ the sun  
space outward from the sun is not  
continuously filled with matter there  
are only a discrete number of such points.

You can travel to point "3" either by  
going back in time or forward in space  
30 million miles toward the sun. Either way, you  
reach the same point.

"And we missed the Mesozoic Age  
by 10<sup>7</sup> years."

"What!!" <sup>gyroscope</sup>

The time ~~set~~ was set for the  
~~Mesozoic~~ and Triassic and wound  
up in the Permian.

"That's wonderful"

"Wonderful?"

"Time travel is quantized." He  
almost jumped up and down.

Eva looked puzzled. He cleared  
his throat to explain. He was lecturing  
at the university again.

"~~Professor~~ Think of the hydrogen  
atom ~~it~~. It takes 10 electron volts and  
exactly ten to move the <sup>other</sup> electron out  
from the nucleus a given distance. Eight  
volts won't move it at all and ~~one~~  
~~four~~ will move it only to the same  
level. Thus ~~the~~ the time gyroscope will  
only go to the Permian-Venus, or  
Mercury - lord only knows where. You  
can't go to any place in between, ~~anywhere~~  
regardless of intermediate settings. The particular  
thresholds required to produce gene mutations

I don't know if I'm doing this right

T

← and enzymological reactions."

There was a sudden enzymological reaction.

She took his hand. "Aden", she said softly. "Let's go home."

~~she gather~~

"She's very pretty" thought Aden.  
"And very tired."

"It has been ~~and~~ ~~but~~ long  
~~for~~ you hasn't it. Yes, we'll go home  
as soon as we can get ready. ~~The instability~~  
~~of the time~~ ~~but~~? Travel worries me. We  
must take the space ship. We have no  
guarantee that we'd return to <sup>the</sup> Earth ~~that~~  
we know."

"Then we must destroy the time machine  
to prevent a ~~I~~ ~~also~~ in time paradox, ~~but~~

~~it~~ ~~is~~ ~~dangerous~~ ~~and~~ ~~back~~ ~~into~~ ~~it~~ ~~and~~  
~~forget~~ ~~himself~~ ~~into~~ ~~the~~ ~~past~~."

"~~yes~~ it ~~was~~ ~~possible~~ ~~but~~ ~~dangerous~~"

"And we must get this information  
~~back to Earth~~"

"A which?"

"Well, suppose one of ~~the~~ our  
friends from the Jurassic stepped into the  
machine and project himself into the future.  
Can you see a ~~time~~ Triceratops in  
Mid-Victorian England? Or a Neanderthal  
~~man~~ ~~so~~ ~~far~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~future~~ ~~materializing~~ in Gimbel's  
Basement? It's also too deadly a weapon.  
~~to allow~~ ~~for~~ ~~its~~ ~~being~~ ~~possessed~~ ~~by~~  
~~someone~~ In the hands of an unscrupulous  
person of some later age . . . . ."

"~~if~~ ~~Adella~~ ~~the~~ ~~fun~~ ~~or~~ ~~strength~~

~~left unanswered~~  
 Then ... Eden interrupted and then ~~she had~~ finished.  
 The evening was all too clear.

as though we were still " ~~He~~ said Eva reverently " It  
 will be like destroying a great ~~intelligence~~ who  
 has ~~bestowed on~~ ~~meager fragment~~ us only a minute portion of what  
 he knows. his knowledge "

(22) " ~~We won't give it back at~~  
~~any note~~ " ~~Dear~~ ~~and because~~  
 " Let's do it and hurry before  
 I get ~~too~~ down ~~it~~ in the bathes. "

The path from the clearing to  
 the steps ~~had~~ was a familiar friend. It  
 had been ~~trodden~~ worn by so  
 many feet and for many purposes. Excited  
 feet of exploration had ~~torn~~ first biting  
 away at the jungle and making the rudiments  
 of the route. Like children with new toys  
 these feet <sup>had</sup> almost stopped. Inquisitive feet  
 had trod the path to ~~s~~ discover  
 the cause of strange sounds. Like children  
 not quite sure of the path they had almost  
 tiptoed. ~~Frightened~~ Terrified feet had  
 run along the way and then <sup>were</sup> frozen. Like  
 children in the dark they had trembled.  
 Now tired, mournful feet went slowly across  
 the ~~same~~ earth where ~~were~~ averaging  
 feet had ~~been~~ stomped and where dead feet had  
 dragged. Mournful feet ~~were~~ following that  
 shortest distance between two points to a  
 funeral bier. Like children they were going  
 to destroy ~~tree~~ ~~It did not~~ it.  
 the unstable, the insecure, the not-quite-known.  
 Like children —

The time machine gave them no trouble -  
 not trouble at all. It ~~just worked~~. It blew  
 very quite neatly. They set the detonation eggs  
 and the timer and waited. As the last seconds  
 ticked Eva was sure she heard a murmur of  
 "Et tu". No time after, there was a flash and  
 the explosives ~~blown~~ performed with rapid and  
 lethal precision. A ball of smoke hung momentarily  
 in the air and at last it too ~~was gone~~. Eva wished that  
 there was something left to bury. Instead she left an  
 epitaph on a flat rock. It would be washed  
 away with the first rain. In this way it was  
 appropriately a temporary epitaph for a temporal  
 thing. It read -

\* \* \* \* \*

~~It was not so peculiar to  
 believe cold weather invasions in the mid afternoon  
 test. But the local weather need not be identical.  
 A little less will suffice to make adults.  
 The heat is more likely to do this. So here the  
 open epithet has been closed. He claimed it  
 a moment to its absence.~~

~~At last Biden took the initiative, saying  
 "Well even if Trump had been buried with one  
 hand as in effish thought this is good...".~~

~~He stopped his hand on the shoulder. It took  
 a ~~surprise~~ expression~~

~~what as the common manipulations of  
 human life. So today suddenly it became clear.  
 As if it were a game, we are bad  
 get to all the gain and a realm or  
 both it terrible thought can start even the borders~~

~~of the same time~~

"Where the dog should have been was only air - an aerial monument to its absence.

"Is it much further?" asked Eva gaily.  
"Aren't? Aren't what and you peering at?"  
"Nothing."

"Well let's go on then."  
"But it shouldn't be nothing. The cleaning is when the spaceship landed."

"That's absurd. Where is it then?"

"An excellent question."  
"Are you sure this was the place. Two hundred tons couldn't be swallowed by a ~~tiny~~ dimension."

"And that claimed pit couldn't be made by anything but a space ship," he replied bluntly.

The fried earth that was the antipode of every spaceship was indeed unreliable ground. Slowly the novelty of the impossible wore off and they ~~went again~~ undesignated, ~~growing~~ in the pain of ~~sudden~~ loneliness.

"The promised desert island," he said "~~the ship~~ I never took it but I'm surprised

~~that the officers and men are gone too, the~~  
~~surprised ladder against it yet~~  
~~and that~~ ~~their~~ ~~final~~ in the wake of the  
all too sleep realization that they were alone,

Above them were ~~the~~ mountains of scarlet clouds and beyond, ~~the~~ the stars which they would never see again. The lonely stars. ~~One~~ other's was a different loneliness — of failure; the emptiness of the tired, the weak, the homesick.

"But why Aren, why?"

"Blessed ~~are~~ the meek for they ~~shall~~

"Shall inherit the earth?" intoned Aden.

~~† If we could only be sure of that.~~  
~~Is this ~~the~~ the inscrutable will of some~~  
~~superior being? As was Darwin ~~so~~ wrong! Oh~~  
~~I want it to be true. I dare not doubt it."~~

Aden and Eve stood awhile ~~and~~ thought,  
 And as in selfish thought they stood, it ~~was~~  
 true. They wanted to feel the Presence and ~~it~~  
 was near them. <sup>①</sup> They wanted confirmation and  
 the world should himself as final tribute to their  
 suffering. They wanted it desperately. <sup>w. d. desperation of</sup> They waited it  
 too.

Hard in fact they went to meet their  
 Maker.

He burbled as they came.

"Goody" said the Green Beast. . . .

# FINIS.



① They wanted Truth, and He would reveal it.

~~† I want to believe that Aden. But can I throw~~  
~~away all I've learned. Can I scoff at Darwin~~  
~~and call him a fool. I want proof. If this~~  
~~is the inscrutable will of some superior being it~~  
~~must be shown to me. I need proof. I need proof!"~~

+ an answer

Following the invention of the  
Temporal Gigoscope and the development  
of the first successful Nuclear  
Reaction engine, ~~technology~~ in the fields  
of time and space travel snowballed. ~~so~~  
~~fast~~ ~~as~~ the competition between the  
~~two~~ opposing scientific factions ~~was~~ <sup>was friendly but</sup> ~~but~~ <sup>friendly but</sup> within a  
one week interval ~~in the year~~, the first space expedition  
left for Venus and the first time expedition  
for the Mesozoic Age in the Earth's past. The  
failure of the time travel ~~expedition~~, who  
were never seen again, and the triumphant  
return of the courageous spacemen settled  
the issue. Time travel now ranks among  
the great follies of the world, while research  
in Space ~~which has~~ <sup>now</sup> ~~has~~ <sup>now</sup> ~~been~~ <sup>been</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> Galaxy progressed.

### The Decline of Man Donald J. Boisbee.

~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> going ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> going rapidly and man is now ready  
to explore the outer planets of the Solar  
System. Who knows what he may find?

# CYCLONE FENCE

TO \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 1/2

FROM \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT pPE<sub>d</sub> due in bldg to people walking on lab floor

$$pPE_{Rg} = pPE_d = \cancel{1\%} \quad 1\%$$

$$pPE_{I_3} = pPE_{Rg} = 1\%$$

$$pPE_k = \sqrt{(pPE_{I_3})^2 + (pPE_d)^2} = 1.4\%$$

$$pPE_{V_3} = \sqrt{(pPE_{I_3})^2 + (pPE_{Rg})^2} = 1.7\%$$

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

It's almost ~~a fitting~~<sup>an appropriate</sup> punishment isn't it Aden. ↑ → ←  
In ignorance & murder ~~were~~<sup>was</sup> committed. But through them  
we've learned a great thing. And we're forbidden to  
spreading the knowledge - stranded in the chaos of  
an unknown world. What ~~a fitting curse for~~  
~~an appropriate curse.~~

$$2^h \quad 2^{40} = \\ (2^{10})^4 \quad 10^{12}$$

Lorentz transform

$$t' = \frac{t_0}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

time dilation effect

~~finite speed~~ loss

Moss effect in Beta decay - neutrino

Assumptions:

Pauli, Fermi

(2) rotation avoids  $n \rightarrow \infty$  (supported by object disappearing in all 3 dimensions)

(1) time or energy; can be discussed in terms of field (supported by turbulence data)

Statistical dimension arbitrary amount of matter resulting (say in a nuclear reaction  $\leftrightarrow$  amount of matter appearing

Creation consequences: Hyle

"On the first day there was matter, and it was good.  
On the second day it was created...."

Conservation laws empirical

mechanics

H dust clouds; continuous creation; matter being created within special domain already occupied with some matter, and then expanding away from it.  
Does not obviate necessity for "God" since basic issue is what are these physical laws operative.